

## If You Fail the CPJE and/or the NAPLEX

If you fail the California Pharmacist Jurisprudence Examination (CPJE) or the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX), or both exams, you may reapply to retake the examination(s) unless you have failed the California pharmacists licensure examinations four times (see below).

The board's procedures to reapply to take either or both examinations are provided below.

### **To retake the CPJE:**

- Submit the "Retake Application" (form 17A-1A) which can be downloaded from the board's Web site.
- Submit a fee of \$200 (made payable to the "Board of Pharmacy") with the completed retake application. A fee of \$200 is required by the board for examination expenses.

The board will process your application in approximately 15 days, and notify you in a letter of the results of the review. If you are requalified by the board to take the CPJE, you may schedule your retake examination with Experior Assessments, LLC. If you are denied requalification, the board will advise you in writing why. Use the same procedures as before.

You must wait 90 days after the date you last took the CPJE before you can reschedule another examination. Experior Assessments charges \$40 to readminister the CPJE.

### **If you have failed the NAPLEX and wish to retake it:**

- California must requalify you to take the NAPLEX. You need to submit the "retake application" which can be downloaded from the board's Web site. You will NOT need to pay an additional fee to the California State Board of Pharmacy when you submit the retake application for the NAPLEX to the board. In about 15 days you will receive a letter from the board advising you whether you are requalified to retake the NAPLEX for California. If you are requalified, follow the items listed below. If you are denied requalification, the board will advise you in writing the reasons why.
- You need to contact the NABP to request to retake the NAPLEX. You will need to pay the application and examination fee of \$485 again to do this.
- Once you have been determined eligible to retake the NAPLEX and have paid the application fee to NABP, you will receive your authorization to test from the NABP. At this point you can schedule your next NAPLEX examination. You can retake the NAPLEX 91 days after the last date you took the examination.

**If you have failed both the CPJE and NAPLEX, and wish to retake both exams:**

- You will need to submit the “Retake Application” which can be downloaded from the board’s Web site. You also will need to submit a fee of \$200 (made payable to the “Board of Pharmacy”) to requalify for the CPJE.

The board will process your application in approximately 15 days, and notify you in a letter of the results of the review. If you are requalified by the board to take the CPJE, you may schedule your retake examination with Experior Assessments, LLC.

- Once you are requalified by the board, you may schedule your retake examination 90 days after you last took the CPJE. Experior will charge \$40 for this retake examination.
- You also must apply to the NABP to retake the NAPLEX. The NABP will charge \$485 to retake the NAPLEX. You may not retake the NAPLEX until 91 days after you last took the examination.

**Failing the Examination Four Times**

If you fail the California State Board of Pharmacy’s pharmacist licensure examination four times, you are required to complete 16 semester units of additional education in pharmacy before you will be eligible to retake the California-required examinations. This coursework must be taken in a school of pharmacy approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (which until mid-2003 was known as the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education) or approved by the board.

The laws that establish these requirements are located in the California Business and Professions Code (section 4200.1) and in California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1725.

Prior to January 1, 2004, applicants for licensure as a pharmacist in California took a two-part multiple choice and short-answer essay examination developed by the California board (pre2004 version). Effective January 1, 2004, the law requires passage of both the CPJE and the NAPLEX to become licensed as a pharmacist (current exam structure).

When counting four failed attempts at the California pharmacist examination (California Business and Professions Code section 4200.1), the board uses the following criteria:

- Applicants who failed the prior examination (pre2004 version) will have these failed attempts continue to count as failed examinations; the 2004 changes will not restart applicants to zero attempts at the pharmacist licensure examination.
- Applicants who fail the pharmacist exam after December 31, 2003, will have each attempt at the NAPLEX and the CPJE count separately as an attempt.
- For an applicant who has not taken the California examination before January 1, 2004, he or she will have four attempts to pass the CPJE and four attempts to pass the NAPLEX after December 31, 2003.
- After January 1, 2004: If an applicant passes the one examination but fails the other examination four times, the applicant must complete 16 units of additional coursework before he or she will qualify to take the California licensure examinations again. For example, if an applicant passes the CPJE but fails the NAPLEX four times, the applicant must complete 16 units of pharmacy education before he or she can be qualified to retake the NAPLEX for California.

Examples: Jeff took the California examination in January 2003 and June 2003, and failed both exams. Jeff will have two opportunities to pass the NAPLEX and two opportunities to pass the CPJE before he will reach four failed attempts to pass the California exam.

Lisa took the California examination in June 1998 and failed it. Lisa will have three opportunities to pass the CPJE and three opportunities to pass the NAPLEX after January 1, 2004, before she will reach the four failed attempts.

Mia took the California examination in June 1998 and failed it. Mia took the NAPLEX in February 2004 and failed it. Mia will have three opportunities to pass the CPJE and two more opportunities to pass the NAPLEX.

Leonard took the California examination in June 1998 and failed it. He took the NAPLEX in November 2002 and failed it. Leonard will have three chances to pass the CPJE and three chances to pass the NAPLEX (because he took the NAPLEX before January 1, 2004, not after this date).